

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4-6, and 8-12 are pending with claims 1, 4, and 9 being independent claims. Claim 6 has been cancelled in this response. Claims 1, 4, 5, and 9 have been amended. Claims 10-12 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9 have been allowed. Applicants acknowledge this indication of allowed claims. Claims 4-6 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten. Claim 4 is amended per the Office's suggestion. Claims 1, 4, and 9 have been amended in this response to remove features that are not described by the cited references. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claims 1, 4, and 9 do not impact the allowability of these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 4-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 4 has been amended per the Office's suggestion. Claim 5 has been amended to conform to the amendments to claim 4. Claim 6 has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph be withdrawn and that the claims be allowed.

Double patenting

Claim 6 is objected to. The cancellation of claim 6 obviates this objection.

New claims

Claims 10-12 are new claims. Claims 10-12 recite features that have been removed from claims 1, 4, and 9, respectively.

For example, in claim 1, the previously recited feature "the directional control valve is located in a directional control valve body for a boom of the working vehicle" has been amended to presently recite "the directional control valve is located in a directional control valve body." New claim 10 recites "wherein the directional control valve is located in a directional control valve body. Claim 10 is patentable at least for reasons similar to claim 1.

Claims 11 and 12 also recite similar features and are patentable at least for reasons similar to claims 4 and 9, respectively.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the remarks made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant : Norihide Mizoguchi et al.
Serial No. : 10/575,000
Filed : April 7, 2006
Page : 9 of 9

Attorney's Docket No.: 23697-0008US1 / NF-2976

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 17 2008

/ Sushil Shrinivasan L0368 /
Sushil Shrinivasan
Reg. No. L0368

PTO Customer No. 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.

Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (877) 769-7945

10870943.doc